

Scottish band Del Amitri is a group that puts the songs first with an emphasis on melody and an in-depth knowledge of American music styles. Their latest *Change Everything* (A&M) isn't quite as enticing as their previous effort *Waking Hours*, but leader Justin Currie is becoming one of the most consistently soulful singers and writers around whether on the bitter rocker, "The Ones That You Love Lead You Nowhere" or the beautiful "As Soon as the Tide Comes In."

Opening are the Arizona band, Gin Blossoms whose debut *New Miserable Experience* (A&M) mixes moderate grunge rock with tuneful songs that occasionally cross into country. Singer Robin Wilson's earnest vocals on songs like "Hands Are Tied" and "29," along with the band's powerhouse delivery make this a band to keep an eye on.

Del Amitri with Gin Blossoms: Wed., Sept. 30 at 8 p.m. at TLA, 334 South St., 922-1011.

--Peter Brown